

Claims

1. Method for call charging for a communication connection which is set up between a first communication terminal in a first packet-switched communication network and a second communication terminal in a second packet-switched communication network, in which
 - from within the first communication terminal or from within the second communication terminal a set-up request message concerning the communication network is routed to an interface node between the first and the second communication network,
 - the set-up request message is forwarded from the interface node to an analysis and control unit,
 - the analysis and control unit analyzes the set-up request message with respect to its origin and specifies by a rule whether the communication connection concerned which is to be set up will be charged or treated as charge-free,
 - the billing is undertaken correspondingly via a billing computer.
2. Method in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that
 - the analysis and control unit forwards the rule which has been specified to all interface nodes which are involved in the recording of the packets which are to be transported for the communication connection concerned,
 - the packets are ignored by the interface nodes if, according to the rule, the communication connection concerned is to be treated as charge-free,
 - the packets are recorded by the interface node, and corresponding billing is effected via the billing computer, if the communication connection concerned is,

according to the rule, chargeable.

3. Method in accordance with one of claims 1 or 2,
characterized in that
 - the Internet is used as the first communication network.
4. Method in accordance with one of claims 1, 2 or 3,
characterized in that
a mobile radiocommunication network working on a packet-oriented basis is used as the second communication network.
5. Method in accordance with one of the preceding claims,
characterized in that
the communication connection between the first communication terminal and the second communication terminal is set up via the Internet.
6. Method in accordance with one of the preceding claims,
characterized in that
an element of a data packet control system which controls connection set-ups is used as the interface node.
7. Method in accordance with one of the preceding claims,
characterized in that
the analysis and control unit is integrated into an interface node.
8. Method in accordance with one of the claims 4 to 7,
characterized in that
a network computer of the mobile radiocommunication network is used as the billing computer.
9. Method in accordance with one of the claims 3 to 8,
characterized in that

an Internet computer of the Internet is used as the billing computer.

10. Method in accordance with one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the rule is stored in the interface nodes.
11. Method in accordance with one of the preceding claims, characterized in that all packets for the communication connection are routed via a special interface node.
12. Method in accordance with one of the preceding claims, characterized in that after termination of the connection one of the subscribers transmits an end message, the end message is analyzed by the analysis and control unit, the rule is canceled and the interface nodes are notified of this.
13. Method in accordance with one of the preceding claims, characterized in that an interface is provided between the analysis and control unit and the billing computer.